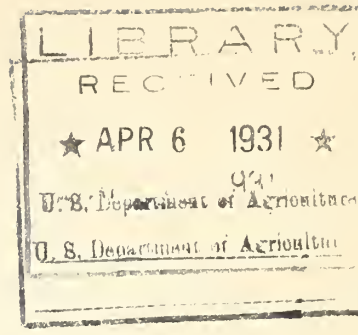


Historic, Archive Document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.

File 1
1.9
527



Bi-1145
4-31

United States Department of Agriculture
Bureau of Biological Survey
Washington, D. C.

DIRECTIONS FOR COLLECTING MAMMALS' STOMACHS

In collecting mammals' stomachs for the Biological Survey, cooperators should use the tags and schedules supplied by the Bureau. When necessary, formalin for preserving the stomachs also will be supplied. In addition to these supplies, penalty envelopes for returning the schedules and gummed franks for mailing packages of stomachs are furnished. These penalty envelopes and franks render unnecessary the payment of postage from points within the United States. Mail packages should not exceed 4 pounds in weight; heavier packages may be sent by express collect.

In removing stomach from carcass, take care not to make large cuts in it; otherwise part of the stomach contents will be lost. Tie tag securely about stump of gullet.

The tags should be numbered with good carbon ink, or, if that is lacking, with indelible pencil or soft lead pencil. When ink is used tags should not be put into the preservative until the ink is thoroughly dry. The numbers should form one continuous series and should not be repeated no matter how many stomachs are sent in. If schedules are not kept use large tags and write complete information thereon.

The information to be placed on schedule (or tag) includes the name of the animal, sex, locality, date, collector's number, method of capture, whether shot or trapped, and if the latter what kind of bait was used, and finally name of collector.

Preserve stomachs in formalin (add 10 to 12 parts of water to the commercial product), and make a few punctures or slits in stomach wall to allow entrance of preserving fluid. Keep stomachs in preservative five days or as much longer as convenient. When ready to ship, remove the stomachs from the formalin and let them dry until no longer wet on surface before packing.

Wrap stomachs in paper or cloth and put in a tin can, small wooden box, or similar receptacle, and fill excess space with crumpled paper, excelsior or the like. Wrap container in newspaper or other absorbent material before putting on outside wrapper, which should be snug and firmly tied. Address shipments to the Division of Food Habits Research, Bureau of Biological Survey, Washington, D. C.

